

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/807,935

Applicant(s)

DENISON ET AL.

Examiner

Brian A. Zimmerman

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the decision by the board of appeals and interview summary of 7/24/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 22,24-26,28,29,32-35,37,38,41-44,46 and 47.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) ✓
Paper No./Mail Date <u>7/24/07</u> |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment ✓ |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mike Lake on 10/30/07. Authorization to charge fees for excess claims, was given by Mr. Lake on 11/5/07, charge number 50-0545.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 1-21,23,27,30,31,36,39,40,45 and 48 are cancelled.

Claims 22,24-26,28,29,32-35,37,38,41-44,46,47 are amended as follows:

- 22.** A method comprising the steps of:
- deactivating a circuit during a first time period;
 - enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;
 - sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;
 - enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;
 - processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;
 - comparing the input code to an access code;
 - providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
- and,

receiving another input code from a keyboard and comparing the other input code to the access code or another access code.

24. The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of receiving a signal in response to pressing a program key on the keyboard.

25. A method comprising the steps of:

- deactivating a circuit during a first time period;
- enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;
- sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;
- enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;
- processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;
- comparing the input code to an access code;
- providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;

and,

- enabling a low-battery detection circuit for measuring a battery voltage during a first time period, and disabling the low-battery detection circuit during a second time period.

26. A method comprising the steps of:

- deactivating a circuit during a first time period;
- enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;
- sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;
- enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;
- processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;
- comparing the input code to an access code;

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providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
and,

providing a non-zero power output to the device, providing a lower non-zero power output to the device, and transitioning from the non-zero power output to the lower non-zero power output.

28. A method comprising the steps of:
deactivating a circuit during a first time period;
enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;
sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;
enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;
processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;
comparing the input code to an access code;
providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
writing the access code into a memory in response to a write signal received through a communication port; and,
writing a serial number into the memory.

29. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of transmitting the serial number through the communication port.

32. A method comprising the steps of:
periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;
receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;
comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
and,

receiving another input code from a keyboard and comparing the other input code to the access code or another access code.

33. The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of receiving a signal in response to pressing a program key on the keyboard.

34. A method comprising the steps of:

periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;

receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;

comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
and,

periodically enabling and disabling a low-battery detection circuit for measuring a battery voltage.

35. A method comprising the steps of:

periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;

receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;

comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
and,

providing a non-zero power output to the device, providing a lower non-zero power output to the device, and transitioning from the non-zero power output to the lower non-zero power output.

37. A method comprising the steps of:

periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;

receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;

comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;

writing the access code into a memory in response to a write signal received through a communication port; and,

writing a serial number into the memory.

38. The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of transmitting the serial number through the communication port.

41. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the steps of:

generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an electromagnetic signal;

receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;

increasing the current drained from the battery;

comparing the input code to an access code;

providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access code;

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decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code;
and,

receiving another input code from a keyboard and comparing the other input code to the access code or another access code.

42. The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of receiving a signal in response to pressing a program key on the keyboard.

43. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the steps of:

generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an electromagnetic signal;

receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;

increasing the current drained from the battery;

comparing the input code to an access code;

providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access code;

decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code;
and,

further comprising the steps of periodically enabling and disabling a low-battery detection circuit for measuring a battery voltage.

44. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the steps of:

generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an electromagnetic signal;

receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;

increasing the current drained from the battery;

comparing the input code to an access code;

providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access code;

decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code; and,

providing a non-zero power output to the unlock device, providing a lower non-zero power output to the unlock device, and transitioning from the non-zero power output to the lower non-zero power output.

46. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the steps of:

generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an electromagnetic signal;

receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;

increasing the current drained from the battery;

comparing the input code to an access code;

providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access code;

decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code;

writing the access code into a memory in response to a write signal received through a communication port; and,

writing a serial number into the memory.

47. The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of transmitting the serial number through the communication port.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mike Lake on 10/30/07. Authorization to charge fees for excess claims, was given by Mr. Lake on 11/5/07, charge number 50-0545.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 1-21,23,27,30,31,36,39,40,45 and 48 are cancelled.

Claims 22,24-26,28,29,32-35,37,38,41-44,46,47 are amended as follows:

22. A method comprising the steps of:

deactivating a circuit during a first time period;

enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;

sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;

enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;

processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;

comparing the input code to an access code;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;

and,

_____ receiving another input code from a keyboard and comparing the other input code to the access code or another access code.

Deleted: The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of

24. The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of receiving a signal in response to pressing a program key on the keyboard.

25. A method comprising the steps of:

_____ deactivating a circuit during a first time period;
 _____ enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;
 _____ sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;
 _____ enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;
 _____ processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;
 _____ comparing the input code to an access code;
 _____ providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
and,

_____ enabling a low-battery detection circuit for measuring a battery voltage during a first time period, and disabling the low-battery detection circuit during a second time period,

Deleted: The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of periodically
 Deleted: a
 Deleted: for measuring a battery voltage

26. A method comprising the steps of:

_____ deactivating a circuit during a first time period;
 _____ enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;
 _____ sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;
 _____ enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;
 _____ processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;
 _____ comparing the input code to an access code;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
and,

providing a non-zero power output to the device, providing a lower non-zero power output to the device, and transitioning from the non-zero power output to the lower non-zero power output.

Deleted: The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of

28. A method comprising the steps of:

deactivating a circuit during a first time period;
enabling a portion of the circuit for a second time period;
sensing an electromagnetic signal during the second time period;
enabling the circuit for an extended time period that is greater than the second time period upon the sensing of the electromagnetic signal;
processing the electromagnetic signal during the extended time period to obtain an input code;
comparing the input code to an access code;
providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
writing the access code into a memory in response to a write signal received through a communication port; and,
writing a serial number into the memory.

Deleted: The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of

29. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of transmitting the serial number through the communication port.

32. A method comprising the steps of:

periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;
receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;
comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;

and,

receiving another input code from a keyboard and comparing the other input code to the access code or another access code.

Deleted: The method of claim 8 further comprising the steps of

33. The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of receiving a signal in response to pressing a program key on the keyboard.

34. A method comprising the steps of:

periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;

receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;

comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;

and,

periodically enabling and disabling a low-battery detection circuit for measuring a battery voltage.

Deleted: The method of claim 8 further comprising the steps of

35. A method comprising the steps of:

periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;

receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;

comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;
and,

providing a non-zero power output to the device, providing a lower non-zero
power output to the device, and transitioning from the non-zero power output to the
lower non-zero power output.

Deleted: The method of claim 8
further comprising the steps of

37. A method comprising the steps of:

periodically enabling and disabling a circuit during each of a plurality of duty
cycles wherein the circuit is enabled for a time t_1 during each of the duty cycles;

receiving an input code transmitted via an electromagnetic signal;

comparing the input code to an access code;

enabling the circuit as the input code is being received for a time t_2 that is greater
than said time t_1 ;

providing a signal to unlock a device if the input code matches the access code;

writing the access code into a memory in response to a write signal received
through a communication port; and,

writing a serial number into the memory.

Deleted: The method of claim 36
further comprising the step of

38. The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of transmitting the serial
number through the communication port.

41. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the
steps of:

generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an
electromagnetic signal;

receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;

increasing the current drained from the battery;

comparing the input code to an access code;

providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access
code;

decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code;
and,
receiving another input code from a keyboard and comparing the other input
code to the access code or another access code.

Deleted: The method of claim 15
further comprising the steps of

42. The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of receiving a signal in response to pressing a program key on the keyboard.

43. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the steps of:

generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an
electromagnetic signal;
receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;
increasing the current drained from the battery;
comparing the input code to an access code;
providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access
code;
decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code;

and,

further comprising the steps of periodically enabling and disabling a low-battery
detection circuit for measuring a battery voltage.

Deleted: The method of claim 15

44. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the steps of:

generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an
electromagnetic signal;
receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;
increasing the current drained from the battery;
comparing the input code to an access code;

_____ providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access code;

_____ decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code;

and,

_____ providing a non-zero power output to the unlock device, providing a lower non-zero power output to the unlock device, and transitioning from the non-zero power output to the lower non-zero power output.

Deleted: The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of

46. A method for operating a circuit on current drained from a battery comprising the steps of:

_____ generating a signal to indicate detection of a device capable of providing an electromagnetic signal;

_____ receiving an input code transmitted by the electromagnetic signal;

_____ increasing the current drained from the battery;

_____ comparing the input code to an access code;

_____ providing an output to an unlock device if the input code matches the access code;

_____ decreasing the current drained from the battery after receiving the input code;

_____ writing the access code into a memory in response to a write signal received through a communication port; and,

_____ writing a serial number into the memory.

Deleted: The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of

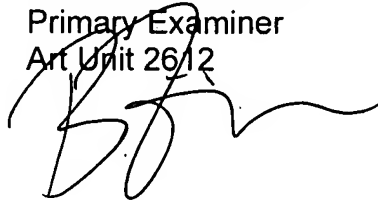
47. The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of transmitting the serial number through the communication port.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian A. Zimmerman whose telephone number is 571-272-3059. The examiner can normally be reached on 7 am to 4 pm E.S.T.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu can be reached on 571-272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Brian A Zimmerman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2612

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BZ' with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

BZ